

**SENATE RESOLUTION #2771**

**TITLE:** ASUW Support for Including Paid Hourly Senatorial Positions in the FY23 Budget

**DATE INTRODUCED:** November 30, 2021

**AUTHORS:** Senator Titus and President Swilling

**SPONSORS:** Senators Talamantes and Wilkins; Chief of Legislative Affairs Carrier



1. WHEREAS, the purpose of the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming (ASUW)
2. Student Government is to serve our fellow students in the best manner possible; and,
3. WHEREAS, the ASUW Senate is ASUW's primary elected representative body, currently
4. comprised of 32 full-voting elected members; and,
5. WHEREAS, these Senators are expected to conduct outreach to their constituents and
6. represent their interests, attend senate and committee meetings, attend student organization-
7. held events, volunteer for service hours, and a variety of other duties; and,
8. WHEREAS, performing all of these duties to a high degree of quality likely requires an
9. average time investment of at least six (6) hours a week; and,
10. WHEREAS, ASUW Senators are currently compensated with the ASUW Senatorial
11. Scholarship, which gives a maximum of \$500/semester for those who meet all of the criteria;
12. and,
13. WHEREAS, this equates to an approximate hourly pay of \$5.20, which is inequitable
14. compared to the ASUW Executive Branch, whose employees receive an hourly rate of \$10
15. per hour; and,
16. WHEREAS, this scholarship model also only pays Senators at the end of the semester, which
17. is a structurally flawed system that disadvantages those who cannot afford to only be paid at
18. the very end of their time working, and also completely discounts the work that any Senator
19. who vacates their office before the end of their term may do; and,


20. WHEREAS, there is a common desire amongst many Senators, students, and the rest of the  
21. ASUW for Senators to be fairly compensated for their time, so that they might be able to  
22. connect more deeply with their constituents, and work to advance their constituents'  
23. projects and interests through the ASUW; and,  
24. WHEREAS, the ASUW Business Office has asked for a \$6.31 fee increase for the ASUW  
25. fee, and for the ability to extend the ASUW fee to distance students, as shown in Addendum  
26. A, which would generate approximately \$100,164.37 in additional funds for the ASUW; and,  
27. WHEREAS, the ASUW Tuition Allocation and Student Fee Review Committee, as well as  
28. the full ASUW Senate, has voted to recommend the adoption of this fee increase to the  
29. Central Fee Committee; and,  
30. WHEREAS, the ASUW Ad-Hoc Restructuring Committee, in consultation with ASUW  
31. finance expert Shelly Schaef, has created a payment scheme that provides a feasible and  
32. realistic method by which ASUW Senators may be fairly compensated for their time on an  
33. hourly basis, as shown in Addendum B; and,  
34. WHEREAS, this proposed scheme would cost the ASUW an additional \$34,799.40, which  
35. is easily financeable if ASUW's proposed fee increase is accepted; and,  
36. WHEREAS, the goal of compensating Senators fairly for their time, and more specifically,  
37. paying Senators on an hourly basis, has been one that multiple ASUW Administrations have  
38. pursued and helped lay the groundwork for, including the 107<sup>th</sup> and 108<sup>th</sup> ASUW  
39. Administrations; and,  
40. WHEREAS, paying Senators will likely lead to more engaged and involved Senators; and,  
41. WHEREAS, paying Senators will also be more equitable and inclusive, as it will not  
42. artificially preclude those who cannot afford to work for free from being Senators; and,

43. WHEREAS, many of the University of Wyoming's peer institutes, including the University  
44. of Nevada, Reno and the University of Idaho, compensate their student government's  
45. Senators on an hourly basis.
46. THEREFORE, be it hereby resolved that the Associated Students of the University of  
47. Wyoming (ASUW) Student Government instructs the Budget and  
48. Planning Committee to fully investigate the feasibility of such a proposal, taking into  
49. account the status of ASUW's proposed fee increase; and,
50. THEREFORE, be it further resolved that if they determine it is feasible, they shall include  
51. line-items for senatorial pay in the ASUW budget for Fiscal Year 2023.

**Referred to:** Ad-Hoc Restructuring; Ad-Hoc Strategic Planning; Advocacy, Diversity, and Policy; Budget and Planning; Program and Institutional Development

**Date of Passage:** December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021 **Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

  
(ASUW Chairperson)

**“Being enacted on December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021, I do hereby sign my name hereto and  
approve this Senate action.”**  \_\_\_\_\_

**ASUW President**

## Addendum A

Mandatory Fees, Academic Year, Full-time Students per semester		FY 2021
<b>Full-time students</b>		
ASUW		<del>\$55</del> 45.69
Consolidated Student Services		427.93
Intercollegiate Athletics		125.00
Music/ Theatre		6.05
Recycling		10.12
Student Media		21.19
Student Success		28.00
Transit Fee		56.33
<b>Total for Full-time students</b>		<b>720.31</b>
<b>Total for Part-time students</b>		
\$10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students taking 1-3 credit hours (fee per credit hour) plus flat rate fee for Transit of \$56.33 and Student Success fee of \$28.00 ASUW (<del>7.51</del>), Music/Theatre (0.99), Recycling (1.66), Student Media (3.48) and Consolidated Student Services Fee (24.72)</li> </ul>	38.36 per hour 84.33 flat fee
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students taking 4 or more credit hours (flat rate fee) ASUW (<del>45.69</del>), Music/Theatre (6.05), Recycling (10.12), Student Media (21.19) and Consolidated Student Services Fee* (183.49) Transit Fee (56.33) Student Success (28.00)</li> </ul>	<b>350.87</b>
\$55	<i>*Please Note: The consolidated student service fee for part-time students does not include student Health Service or Campus Recreation. Part-Time students can purchase the optional fee package (page 12)</i>	

*Mandatory Fees are for main campus students. Students taking only Distance courses will be assessed a \$25/credit hour delivery fee or UW-Casper courses will be assessed a separate \$38/credit hour delivery fee. Students taking a combination of main campus and distance courses will be assessed mandatory fees and distance fees.*

## Addendum B

### A Plan to Pay ASUW Senators Hourly

- The total number of senators shall be reduced to 21.
- There shall be seven (7) total standing committees, six (6) chaired at least in part by a Senator:
  - Advocacy, Diversity, and Policy
  - Budget and Planning
  - Outreach, Programming, and Elections
  - Program and Institutional Development
  - Student Organization Funding Board
  - Tuition Allocation and Student Fee Review
- Senators' worked hours shall be overseen by the Steering Committee and the ASUW pro-staff – when submitting their hours, senators shall be required to make a note of what they were doing during those hours.
- Senators who chair a committee shall be able to work eleven (11) hours per week and shall be budgeted to work for 33 weeks of the year.
- Senators who do not shall be able to work nine (9) hours per week and shall be budgeted to work for 32 weeks of the year.

<b>Position</b>	<b>Number of positions</b>	<b>Hours worked/wk</b>	<b>Number of weeks/yr</b>	<b>Pay</b>	<b>Total cost + fringe</b>
Non-chair senators	15	9	32	\$10/hr	\$44,409.60
Chair senators	6	11	33	\$10/hr	\$22,389.84

Total cost to pay Senators: \$66,799.40.

\$32,000 is already allocated for Senatorial scholarships, so total new costs incurred: \$34,799.40